



# Australian Bureau of Statistics

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## **5** months to go until the Census of Population and Housing on 8 August 2006

A Commonwealth Games of Censuses has begun! Yesterday New Zealand held the first of four Censuses involving Commonwealth nations this year. Nigeria will follow later in the month.

Next off the mark is Canada, which will hold its Census on 16 May. Coming in fourth, on 8 August, is Australia. But no doubt the final placings in the real Commonwealth Games will be very different.

Australia, Canada and New Zealand hold a Census once every five years, unlike the nation which brought the Commonwealth into being - the United Kingdom.

The UK only holds a Census once every 10 years. It will hold its next Census in 2011. As a result of this long gap between Censuses, its former colonies are now the Census experts. The UK has sought advice from Australia, Canada and New Zealand during the planning stages of its Census.

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